

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-01 SAJ-01 SR-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 EB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6611

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MASS TU

SUBJ: FONMIN SAYS US-TURKEY COMMON DEFENSE

RELATIONS TO BE REVIEWED IF MILITARY AID CUT

SUMMARY: FONMIN GUNES, AT OCTOBER 26 PRESS CONFERENCE, ANNOUNCED TURKEY WOULD BE OBLIGED REVIEW WHOLE OF COMMON DEFENSE RELATIONS WITH US IF AID CUTOFF RATIFIED BY US CONGRESS. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT TURKEY'S CYPRUS POLICY WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED AND DISCUSSED TURK CYPRIOT REFUGEE PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

1. AT OCTOBER 28 PRESS CONFERENCE, FONMIN GUNES TOOK TOUGH LINE ON POSSIBLE CUTOFF OF US MILITARY AID. AFTER GIVING ACCURATE RESUME OF STATUS OF CONTINUING RESOLUTION AND THE CONDITIONS OF AID CONTINUATION TO DECEMBER 10, GUNES STRESSED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT AMERICAN AID WAS AN ELEMENT OF BOTH NATO FRAMEWORK

AND US-TURKEY BILATERAL DEFENSE AGREEMENTS. ON THIS BASIS, HE FORECAST AN AID CUTOFF (IF FINALIZED BY CONGRESS AFTER ELECTIONS) WOULD OBLIGE TURKEY TO REVIEW THE WHOLE OF HER COMMON DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH THE US IN ORDER TO REESTABLISH THE BALANCE UPSET BY THE AID CUTOFF. THE IMPACT OF AN AID CUTOFF, HE SAID, "WILL BE FOUND NOT ON TURKEY'S CYPRUS POLICY", WHICH WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED, "BUT ON OUR COMMON DEFENSE RELATIONS WITH THE US".

3. IN FINAL POINT, GUNES NOTED THAT TURK CYPRIOTS WHO TOOK REFUGE IN BRITISH SBA'S WERE BEING HELD IN A "SORT OF IMPRISONMENT" CONTRARY TO INTERNATIONAL LAW. IF SITUATION NOT CHANGED, "THE AUTONOMOUS TURKISH ADMINISTRATION, I FEAR, WILL IMPOSE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON BRITISH CITIZENS".

4. IN Q AND A SESSION, GUNES STATED TURKEY WILL NOT LEAVE NATO IF AID IS CUT, BUT WOULD FIND NEW RESOURCES FOR HER DEFENSE NEEDS.
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